Elements of an Essay: Terms

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| --- | --- |
| Heading | Your name, instructor’s name, course, and date. |
| Title | Name of essay, should capture audience’s interest and not just state the topic of essay. |
| Hook | The first sentence of an essay; should grab the reader’s attention; can be a question, exclamation, statement, fact, statistic, etc. |
| Thesis Statement | **One sentence** which summarizes the entire essay. Should include topic, opinion/purpose, and topics of **ALL** body paragraphs. |
| Topic Sentence | The first sentence of a body paragraph; introduces the focus of the body paragraph. |
| Supporting Details | Facts, statistics, sensory details, incidents, anecdotes, and examples that support the topic sentence of a body paragraph. |
| Clincher Sentence | Sentence at the end of a body paragraph which summarizes main idea of paragraph. |
| Transition Word | Words that connect ideas, sentences, or paragraphs. |
| Modified Thesis | A restated thesis statement; should summarize your topic and support but not repeat thesis statement word-for-word. |
| Challenge | A provocative question, quotation, vivid image, call for action, warning, or suggestion to the reader; leaves reader thinking about your essay. |
| Audience | The reader(s) of your essay. |
| Tone | The “attitude” of the essay; word choice and word arrangement determine the tone. |
| Purpose | The reason you are writing your essay (to express yourself, to inform your readers, to entertain, to describe, to analyze, etc.) |

**Essay Structure:**

**Directions:** Correctly label the diagram with the following terms: topic sentence, hook, supporting details, modified thesis, clincher sentence, thesis statement, and challenge.

Introduction

Body

Paragraph 1

Body

Paragraph 2

Body

Paragraph 3

Conclusion

Hook

Thesis Statement

Topic Sentence

Topic Sentence

Topic Sentence

Clincher Sentence

Clincher Sentence

Clincher Sentence

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Supporting Details

Modified

Thesis

Challenge